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ACTION AF-00

INFO	LOG-00	NP-00	ACQ-00	CIAE-00	SMEC-00	DODE-00	DOTE-00
	SRPP-00	DS-00	EB-00	EUR-00	FAAE-00	VC-00	H-01
	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-00	L-00	VCE-00	AC-01	NSAE-00
	OIC-02	OMB-01	OPIC-01	PA-00	PM-00	PRS-00	ACE-00
	P-00	SP-00	SSO-00	TRSE-00	USIE-00	PMB-00	DSCC-00
	PRM-01	DRL-02	G-00	NFAT-00	SAS-00	SWCI-00	/009W
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FM AMEMBASSY HARARE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7238
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
NSC WASHDC IMMEDIATE
SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY
RWANDA COLLECTIVE

C O N F I D E N T I A L HARARE 005579

SIPDIS

NSC FOR SENIOR AFRICA DIRECTOR GAYLE SMITH
LONDON FOR CHARLES GURNEY
PARIS FOR BISA WILLIAMS
USUN FOR HOLBROOKE

E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/29/10
TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [MOPS](#) [ZI](#) [CG](#)
SUBJECT: MNANGAGWA ON KABILA'S VISIT TO HARARE

REFS: A) HARARE 5464, B) HARARE 5137
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CLASSIFIED BY AMBASSADOR TOM MCDONALD. REASONS: 1.5 (B) AND (D).

[11.](#) (C) SUMMARY: AMBASSADOR MCDONALD VISITED SPEAKER OF PARLIAMENT AND DROC INTERLOCUTOR EMMERSON MNANGAGWA SEPTEMBER 29 TO TRY TO GET A READOUT OF KABILA'S BRIEF HARARE VISIT THE PREVIOUS DAY. ALTHOUGH MNANGAGWA DID NOT SIT IN ON KABILA'S MEETING WITH PRESIDENT MUGABE (HE IS TRYING TO "PHASE OUT" HIS OFFICIAL INVOLVEMENT IN THE DROC), HE LATER SPOKE BY PHONE TO KABILA, AND THE GOVERNOR OF KATANGA, WHO ACCOMPANIED THE CONGOLESE PRESIDENT. MNANGAGWA ASSERTED THAT KABILA INTENDED TO ENSURE THAT HE AND HIS PRINCIPAL ALLY STAY ON TRACK VIS-A-VIS LUSAKA AND AVOID ANY "DRIFT" IN THEIR RELATIONSHIP. WE WILL DIG DEEPER WITH OTHER INTERLOCUTORS OVER THE NEXT SEVERAL DAYS TO DETERMINE WHETHER KABILA SUCCEEDED IN THAT OBJECTIVE. END SUMMARY.

[12.](#) (C) AMBASSADOR AND POLOFF CALLED ON SPEAKER OF PARLIAMENT AND DROC INTERLOCUTOR EMMERSON MNANGAGWA SEPTEMBER 29 TO OBTAIN A READOUT OF KABILA'S VISIT WITH PRESIDENT MUGABE THE PREVIOUS DAY. ONCE AGAIN, MNANGAGWA COYLY STATED THAT HE WAS NO LONGER "OFFICIALLY" INVOLVED IN DROC MATTERS. THE SPEAKER DID SAY THAT HE SPOKE TO KABILA BY PHONE AFTER THE MEETING, AND THAT FOREIGN MINISTER MUDENGE, GENERAL ZVINAVASHE, COMMANDER OF THE ZIMBABWE DEFENSE FORCE, AND THE GOVERNOR OF KATANGA PARTICIPATED IN THE MEETING. KABILA CAME TO HARARE AT THE INVITATION OF PRESIDENT MUGABE TO KEEP LUSAKA ON TRACK AND ENSURE THERE WAS NO "DRIFT" IN THE BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP, ACCORDING TO MNANGAGWA. THE SPEAKER ALSO SPOKE AT LENGTH BY PHONE WITH THE KATANGAN GOVERNOR, BUT WOULD NOT DIVULGE THE SUBJECT OF THAT CONVERSATION.

[13.](#) (C) WHEN ASKED ABOUT ZIMBABWE'S APPARENT PLANS TO PARTIALLY WITHDRAWAL FROM THE DROC (REF A), MNANGAGWA SAID THE PLANS FOR
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WITHDRAWAL ARE COMPLETE AND HAVE BEEN FOR A WHILE. GENERAL ZVINAVASHE WAS DUE TO BRIEF HIM LATER IN THE DAY ON THE KABILA MEETING AND WITHDRAWAL PLANS. MNANGAGWA DID SAY THAT THE NUMBER OF ZIMBABWEAN TROOPS IN DROC IS ALREADY FEWER THAN THE 11,000 FIGURE COMMONLY QUOTED IN THE MEDIA, BUT DID NOT PROVIDE HIS OWN FIGURE.

[14.](#) (C) MNANGAGWA REVEALED THAT HE IS GOING TO LUBUMBASHI WITH PRESIDENT MUGABE ON OCTOBER 2 TO OPEN THE NEW FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF CONGO, WHICH HAS GIVEN A FIVE-YEAR MANAGEMENT CONTRACT TO THE FIRST BANKING CORPORATION OF ZIMBABWE. THE NEW CONGOLESE BANK WILL BE CHAIRED BY MNANGAGWA AND MANAGED BY JOHN MUSHAWARA, A ZIMBABWEAN NATIONAL. THE ZIMBABWEAN MANAGEMENT COMPANY WILL TRAIN ENGLISH- AND FRENCH-SPEAKING CONGOLESE STAFF AND MANAGERS, AND THE BANK WILL HELP FACILITATE TRADE BETWEEN ZIMBABWE AND THE DROC. MNANGAGWA ADDED THAT HE HAD NOT YET BEEN TO THE DROC THIS MONTH; AS REPORTED REF B, HE ORIGINALLY THOUGHT HE WOULD BE TRAVELING THERE A FEW WEEKS AGO.

[15.](#) (C) COMMENT: THE TIGHT-LIPPED MNANGAGWA IS CLEARLY TRYING TO GIVE US THE IMPRESSION HE IS NO LONGER DEEPLY INVOLVED IN THE DROC, BUT HIS ONGOING AND EVER-GROWING FINANCIAL INTERESTS THERE BELIE THAT CLAIM. ALTHOUGH HE MAY NOT PARTICIPATE IN ALL THE HIGH-LEVEL DROC MEETINGS

HE USED TO, HE STILL HAS A PARAMOUNT INTEREST IN
MAINTAINING HIS OLD CONTACTS. HIS CONVERSATION WITH THE
KATANGAN GOVERNOR COULD HAVE BEEN ABOUT THE EXTENSIVE
MINING CONCESSIONS MNANGAGWA HAS A STAKE IN THERE, OR IT
COULD HAVE HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH A PARTIAL TROOP
WITHDRAWAL, ESPECIALLY IN LIGHT OF HIS PENDING BRIEFING
WITH ZVINAVASHE (MOST OF ZIMBABWE'S TROOPS ARE IN
KATANGA). WE WILL DIG DEEPER WITH OTHER INTERLOCUTORS
OVER THE NEXT SEVERAL DAYS TO DETERMINE WHETHER KABILA'S
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VISIT WILL HAVE AN IMPACT ON ALLAYING ZIMBABWE'S
FRUSTRATION WITH ITS RECALCITRANT ALLY, AND ITS EVENTUAL
WITHDRAWAL. END COMMENT.

MCDONALD

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